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HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 411  
By McDonald

A RESOLUTION to honor and congratulate Coach Kristi Brinkley and the 1997 Beech High School softball team, Tennessee Secondary School Athletic Association Class AAA state champions.

WHEREAS, the crowds at the fabled Spring Fling IV witnessed one of the greatest displays of diamond skill ever produced as the excellent 1997 Beech High School girls softball team convincingly won the Tennessee Secondary School Athletic Association Class AAA Tournament; and

WHEREAS, after losing their first game in the tournament to powerful Knoxville Halls 3-6, Beech came thundering back in the semifinals to beat Bartlett 7-1, Columbia 5-2, Halls 3-1, Father Ryan 3-2, Ooltewah 2-0 and Ooltewah 12-5 in the championship game; and

WHEREAS, this 1997 championship campaign was Beech's first state title in any girls' sport; and

WHEREAS, 1997 was also the first year that one of the state's metropolitan areas swept all three softball titles since the tournament year began in 1979; and

WHEREAS, the Lady Bucs completed their storybook season with an excellent record of 30-10, an enviable winning percentage of .750; and

WHEREAS, the seniors on the squad made a decision to play in the tournament, despite missing their graduation ceremony; and

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WHEREAS, Coach Kristi Brinkley has taken the natural talent of the team, and fine-tuned it into championship caliber and has taught the team's members to believe in themselves; and

WHEREAS, members of Coach Brinkley's championship team include: Elizabeth Berman, Misty Miles, Lindy Lowery, Shanna Werrbach, Niki Foster, Amanda Graves, Erin Boyd, Jennifer Garner, Mandy Seagraves, Katie Smith, Jana Fentress, Brynn Dixon, Nikki Bogle, Charity Roberts, Jennifer Dyer, Coach Art Crook, Megan McCrary, and Coach Mary Day Crabtree; and

WHEREAS, it is fitting that we recognize this talented squad on their singular distinction as Class AAA State Softball Champions; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE-HUNDREDTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE SENATE CONCURRING, That we honor and congratulate Coach Kristi Brinkley and the 1997 Beech High School girls softball team on winning the Tennessee Secondary School Athletic Association Class AAA state championship.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That copies of this resolution be prepared for presentation to the school, coach and team members, with this final clause deleted from such copies.